

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/656,942

Examiner

Lars A Olson

Applicant(s)

PARK, GARY T.

Art Unit

3617

-- **The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment received from the applicant on May 6, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-25.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 08 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

### **Reasons for Allowance**

1. An amendment was received from the applicant on May 6, 2004.
2. Claims 1-25 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. The buoyant chair and table ensemble as claimed is not shown or suggested in the prior art because of the use of an ensemble that is comprised of a table and a plurality of seating means that are connectively attached to said table, said ensemble being sufficiently buoyant to float when disposed in a body of water, said ensemble being further comprised of a substantially planar framework with hollow structural members each having an interior volume, a vertical support beam having a first end portion and a second end portion, said first end portion being connected to said framework, a buoyant tabletop portion that is centrally disposed above said planar framework and connected to said second end portion of said vertical support beam, and a plurality of seating means that are connected to said framework, where said seating means are disposed so that said tabletop portion is centrally located with respect to said seating means.
4. The prior art as disclosed by Rhodes (US 4,358,866) shows the use of a buoyant table and seating ensemble that is comprised of a substantially planar framework constructed from hollow structural members, a buoyant tabletop portion that is centrally disposed above said framework, and a plurality of seating means that are connected to said framework. However, none of the prior art cited shows or suggests the use of an ensemble that is comprised of a table and a plurality of seating means that are

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connectively attached to said table, said ensemble being sufficiently buoyant to float when disposed in a body of water, said ensemble being further comprised of a substantially planar framework with hollow structural members each having an interior volume, a vertical support beam having a first end portion and a second end portion, said first end portion being connected to said framework, a buoyant tabletop portion that is centrally disposed above said planar framework and connected to said second end portion of said vertical support beam, and a plurality of seating means that are connected to said framework, where said seating means are disposed so that said tabletop portion is centrally located with respect to said seating means.

### ***Conclusion***

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Exr. Lars Olson whose telephone number is (703) 308-9807.

lo

May 18, 2004



S. J. MORANO  
SUPERVISOR  
EXAMINER  
UNIT 3600